1. (Currently Amended) An external defibrillator ~~enclosure~~ in combination with an electrode pad assembly, comprising:

a first panel and a second panel, said second panel including a recess, said first and second panels mated together and secured by a coupling means, the first and second panels containing defibrillator electronics therebetween;

a plate secured by a coupling means to the second panel, the plate and second panel positioned relative to each other such that said plate covers said recess to form a slot which has a defined and enclosed volume and an opening leading to the ~~enclosed~~ volume; and

~~an electrode pad assembly including a package containing electrode pads, the package including an electrode pad portion, the slot sized to receive a portion of said electrode pad portion of the electrode pad assembly in the enclosed volume through the opening when the electrode pad portion is not in use, the electrode pad assembly including a cable and a connector at the end of the cable extending from said electrode pad portion and connected to the defibrillator electronics when the electrode pad portion is not in use and when the electrode pad portion is in use, and said electrode pad portion of said electrode pad assembly being received through the opening in said slot when the electrode pad portion is not in use.~~

an electrode pad assembly including an electrode pad portion containing electrode pads, at least a portion of the electrode pad portion positioned in the volume through the opening and removable from the volume through the opening, the electrode pad assembly further having an electrical cable extending from the electrode pads with an electrical connector, the electrical connector located outside the electrical pad portion and connected to the defibrillator electronics by a connector port located outside the volume.

2. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 1 wherein ~~both the second panel and the plate have an interior face and an exterior face and the second panel and plate are positioned such that the interior face of the plate is opposite the exterior face of the second panel~~ the opening is always present.

3. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein ~~the space between the interior face of the plate and the exterior face of the second panel defines the slot~~ only a portion of the electrode pad portion is positioned in the volume.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The combination of claim 2 wherein the exterior face of the second panel comprises a holding device for the cable~~ An external defibrillator in combination with an electrode pad assembly, comprising:

a first panel and a second panel, said second panel including a recess, said first and second panels mated together and secured by a coupling means, the first and second panels containing defibrillator electronics therebetween;

a plate secured by a coupling means to the second panel, the plate and second panel positioned relative to each other such that said plate covers said recess to form a slot which has a defined and enclosed volume and an opening leading to the volume; and

an electrode pad assembly including an electrode pad portion containing electrode pads, at least a portion of the electrode pad portion positioned in the volume through the opening and removable from the volume through the opening, the electrode pad assembly further having an electrical cable extending from the electrode pads with an electrical connector,

wherein the first panel has an exterior surface and the second panel has an exterior surface and one of the exterior surfaces comprises a holding device for securing the electrical cable to that exterior surface, the holding device being outside of the volume.

.

5. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 4 wherein the holding device comprises a groove formed in the exterior surface ~~face of the second panel~~, the groove sized to receive and retain the electrical cable.

6. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim [[4]] 1 wherein ~~the first and second panels each include a notch, the notches forming a port when first and second panels are mated, the port configured to interface with the connector~~ the plate is fixedly secured.

[The Remainder of This Page Has Been Intentionally Left Blank.]

7. (Currently Amended) In combination, an electrode pad assembly and ~~an enclosure for housing defibrillator electronics and carrying the electrode pad assembly for use with the electronics~~ an external defibrillator, comprising:

~~a first panel and a second panel forming the enclosure, said second panel including a recess, said first and second panels mated together, the first and second panels confining the defibrillator electronics therebetween;~~

~~a plate secured to the second panel, the plate and second panel positioned relative to each other such that said plate covers said recess to create~~ an enclosure confining defibrillator electronics and defining a slot which has a defined and enclosed volume and an opening leading to the ~~enclosed~~ volume; and

~~an electrode pad assembly including a package containing electrode pads, the package including an electrode pad portion, the electrode pad assembly including a cable and a connector at the end of the cable extending from said electrode pad portion and connected to the defibrillator electronics when the electrode pad portion is not in use and when the electrode pad portion is in use, the slot sized to receive a portion of said electrode pad portion of the electrode pad assembly in the enclosed volume through the opening when the electrode pad portion is not in use, and said electrode pad assembly being received through the opening in said slot when the electrode pad portion is not in use~~

an electrode pad assembly including an electrode pad portion containing electrode pads, at least a portion of the electrode pad portion positioned in the volume through the opening and removable from the volume through the opening, the electrode pad assembly further having an electrical cable extending from the electrode pads with an electrical connector, the electrical connector located outside the electrical pad portion and connected to the defibrillator electronics by a connector port located outside the volume.

8. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 7 wherein ~~the plate and second panel are positioned such that the interior surface of the plate faces the exterior surface of the second panel and the space between the interior surface of the plate and the exterior surface of the second panel defines the slot~~ the opening is always present.

.

9. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 8 wherein the enclosure has an exterior surface, and the exterior surface ~~of the second panel~~ comprises a groove ~~formed in the exterior face of the rear panel, the groove~~ sized to receive and retain the electrical cable.

10 – 11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A defibrillator comprising:~~

~~electricity circuitry configured to output a defibrillation pulse; an enclosure for housing the electrical circuitry; an electrode pad assembly including a package containing electrode pads, an electrical cable connected to said electrode pads, and an electrical connector at the end of the cable extending from an electrode pad portion of the package and connected to the electrical circuitry when the electrode pad portion is not in use and when the electrode pad portion is in use, the enclosure including an exterior slot which has a defined and enclosed volume and an opening leading to the enclosed volume, the slot sized to receive a portion of said electrode pad portion of the electrode pad assembly in the enclosed volume through the opening when the electrode pad portion is not in use, and said electrode pad portion of said electrode pad assembly being received through the opening in said slot when the electrode pad portion is not in use~~

An external defibrillator in combination with an electrode pad assembly, comprising:

an enclosure confining defibrillator electronics and defining a slot which has a defined and enclosed volume and an opening leading to the volume; and

an electrode pad assembly including an electrode pad portion containing electrode pads, at least a portion of the electrode pad portion positioned in the volume through the opening and removable from the volume through the opening, the electrode pad assembly further having an electrical cable extending from the electrode pads with an electrical connector,

wherein the enclosure has an exterior surface, a holding device for securing the electrical cable being on the exterior surface.

13-14. (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~defibrillator~~ combination of claim [[14]] 12 wherein the holding device comprises a groove ~~formed in the exterior side of the panel, the groove~~ sized to receive and retain the electrical cable.

16-17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~defibrillator~~ combination of claim ~~16~~ 7 wherein the enclosure ~~comprises~~ defines a handle and the connector port is adjacent the handle.

19-21. (Cancelled).

22. (Currently Amended) The ~~defibrillator~~ combination of claim [[21]] 7 wherein the slot ~~at least one accessory~~ further ~~comprises~~ holds a battery pack.

23-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Currently Amended) The combination of Claim [[2]]7, wherein the ~~packaging~~ electrode pad portion is removable from the volume through the opening in a direction of the connector port.

30-35. (Cancelled).

[The Remainder of This Page Has Been Intentionally Left Blank.]

36. (New) An external defibrillator, comprising:

an enclosure confining defibrillator electronics and defining a slot which has a defined and enclosed volume and an opening leading to the volume, the volume adapted to hold at least a portion of an electrode pad portion containing electrode pads, the electrode pad portion being part of an electrode pad assembly, at least a portion of the electrode pad portion being positionable in the volume through the opening and removable from the volume through the opening, the electrode pad assembly further having an electrical cable extending from the electrode pads with an electrical connector, the electrical connector located outside the electrical pad portion and being connectable, while at least part of the electrode pad assembly positioned in the volume, to the defibrillator electronics by a connector port located outside the volume.

37. (New) The external defibrillator of claim 36, wherein the volume is oriented relative to the connector port such that when the electrode pad portion is removed from the volume through the opening, a direction of movement of the electrode pad is parallel to a longitudinal axis of the connector port.

38. (New) The external defibrillator of claim 36, wherein the enclosure has an exterior surface, a holding device for securing the electrical cable being on the exterior surface.

[The Remainder of This Page Has Been Intentionally Left Blank.]